as McDowell had not yet left the immediate neighborhood of the capital, and might not do so if he saw himself likely to encounter superior forces. Hence, the opportunity of overwhelming him in the open field might not be presented. As for attacking him behind the fortifications of Washington, that was not to be thought of for a moment.

On the 16th, however, McDowell began his movement. On the 17th, Beauregard telegraphed the fact to Richmond.[1] The same day Johnston was ordered to join all his effective forces to those of Beauregard,[2] and General Holmes, who commanded a small force at Aquia Creek, was sent to Beauregard with the bulk of his command.[3] Of these orders Beauregard was duly informed, but he sent word to Richmond on the 17th that he was afraid that Johnston would be too late, as he expected to be attacked the next day,[4] and he certainly would have been attacked the next day had not unforeseen circumstances delayed the advance of McDowell's army. But McDowell was not able to make his attack until the 21st, and in the meantime, the troops of Holmes and Johnston had joined those of Beauregard, raising the total force of the Confederates on the morning of that day to 29,000 men and 55 guns.[5] None of them, however, arrived before the evening of the 19th,

and some of Johnston's brigades came up only just in time to take part in the battle. Undoubtedly it would have been

[1] 2 W. R., 485.
[2] /£., 478. [3] 2 W. R., 980,
[4] /£., 950.
[6] Beauregard's Report; 2, W. R., 487. Later in the day, further reinforcements to the number of nearly 3000 arrived, *Cf.*, i, B. & L., 195.